

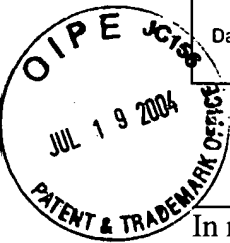
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: July 14, 2004

Signature:

Linda J. Burleigh
(Linda J. Burleigh)

Docket No.: 480062003900
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Guy ROME et al.

Application No.: 10/803,207

Art Unit: 3738

Filed: March 18, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: VALVED CATHETER

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests entry on this Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned patent application.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 2 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 3 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to FIG. 4.

Attachment: Replacement sheet
 Annotated sheet showing changes